



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re the Application of: Masahiro SHIOJI

Serial Number: 09/873,413

Group Art Unit: 2851

Filed: June 5, 2001

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: IMAGE REPRODUCING APPARATUS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND
STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

August 28, 2001

Sir:

In compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the applicant, by the undersigned attorney, hereby notifies the Examiner of the existence of the following additional copending, commonly assigned United States patent application which may be material to the examination of the above-identified application:

Serial No.

Filing Date

09/871,248

June 1, 2001

mt
8/22/04

More particularly, the description in line 23, page 5 through line 16, page 24 of the above-captioned patent application are the same as line 19, page 6 through line 12, page 25 of U.S. Serial No. 09/871,248.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits

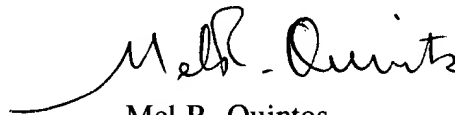
or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340. Two copies of this authorization are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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Atty. Docket No. 010728

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